

Message

From: Smidinger, Betsy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08E9600128AD456D9DF9BA1CB816AA8E-BSMIDING]
Sent: 6/2/2017 5:35:38 PM
To: Woolford, James [Woolford.James@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Montana Standard: Demand that EPA conduct proper cleanup in Butte, Anaconda

Needs to be 2:30....I'm on a reducing burden taskforce call.

From: Woolford, James
Sent: Friday, June 2, 2017 11:34 AM
To: Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Montana Standard: Demand that EPA conduct proper cleanup in Butte, Anaconda

Was going to later - does 2 eastern work for you?

Jim Woolford, Director
Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation
Office of Land and Emergency Management
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Penn. Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460
(Mail Code 5201-P)

Our mission is to return the most contaminated areas of country to communities for safe reuse in a healthy environment.

Phone: (703) 603 8960-- Main Office Line

Physically located at:

Room 5622
One Potomac Yard (South)
2777 S. Crystal Dr.
Arlington, VA 22202



From: Smidinger, Betsy
Sent: Friday, June 02, 2017 1:26 PM
To: Woolford, James <Woolford.James@epa.gov>; Stalcup, Dana <Stalcup.Dana@epa.gov>
Cc: Stavnes, Sandra <Stavnes.Sandra@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Montana Standard: Demand that EPA conduct proper cleanup in Butte, Anaconda

Jim or Dana – Please call me regarding this article. Thanks

Betsy Smidinger

*ARA, Ecosystems Protection and Remediation
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street, Room 4262
Denver, CO 80202
303-312-6231 (Office)
303-335-7627 (Cell)*

From: Mylott, Richard

Sent: Friday, June 2, 2017 10:14 AM

To: Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>; Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Stavnes, Sandra <Stavnes.Sandra@epa.gov>; Murray, Bill <Murray.Bill@epa.gov>; Vranka, Joe <vranka.joe@epa.gov>; Coleman, Charles <Coleman.Charles@epa.gov>; Moler, Robert <Moler.Robert@epa.gov>; Greene, Nikia <Greene.Nikia@epa.gov>; Ostendorf, Jody <ostendorf.jody@epa.gov>; Thomas, Deb <thomas.debrah@epa.gov>; Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>

Subject: Montana Standard: Demand that EPA conduct proper cleanup in Butte, Anaconda

Fyi, latest from MT Standard —op-ed from Fritz Daily. Also fyi, our response to the Standard's questions on Benny Goodman Park from May 24 are still with HQ OPA.

http://mtstandard.com/news/opinion/guest/demand-that-epa-conduct-proper-cleanup-in-butte-anaconda/article_4742f00a-5c90-5b08-a862-a28c4482e24e.html

Demand that EPA conduct proper cleanup in Butte, Anaconda

- Fritz Daily
- Jun 1, 2017 Updated 10 hrs ago

Just when you think that Superfund cleanup and restoration in Butte and Anaconda can't get any worse, or crazier, we now learn that the "sand boxes" where children in Anaconda play contain levels of arsenic and lead that are much higher than the accepted levels. Both elements are listed by the EPA in every publication as carcinogens -- cancer causing! How crazy is this!

If this letter sounds like I am angry, well yes I definitely am. Every resident and elected official in both of our communities should be as well. Including: Governor Bullock, Attorney General Tim Fox and the Montana Congressional Delegation. Our communities deserve so much better!

There is absolutely no question the Environmental Protection Agency, the State of Montana and the local governments, in many cases, have failed our communities and the entire Clark Fork River Basin by not demanding a responsible cleanup and restoration of the Anaconda Smelter, Silver Bow Creek flowing through Butte and the Berkeley Pit, and most importantly the communities of Butte and Anaconda. The economic, environmental and social future of our communities depends on it.

The Anaconda Smelter site has been listed on the National Priority List of Superfund Sites since 1983 and we are just learning that "children's sand boxes" have only been tested to a level of two inches below the surface for arsenic and lead. Who in their right mind, other than EPA, would believe that children would only play in a sand box to a level of two inches?

Silver Bow Creek, including Butte's Silver Bow Creek, has been listed in the National Priority List as # 20 since 1982. A Montana Standard Article on July 22, 2016, titled "New Data Shows Dirty Creek," confirmed that mine waste contamination has reached the streambed and banks of Silver Bow Creek and Blacktail Creek in Butte. As Harley Harris, the Legal Counsel for the Department of Environmental Quality, publicly states --"no reasonable person believes this (underground) water isn't moving towards the Creek"! Again, except the EPA.

In October 2016 we learn that the contaminated tailings under the Slag Walls on Montana Street are as contaminated as groundwater in the Parrot Tailings Area. Keep in mind Parrot Tailings groundwater is more toxic than Berkeley Pit water.

Two basic premises were used in making the incompetent decision on the cleanup of Silver Bow Creek flowing through Butte at its headwaters. No. 1 it was based on the fact that Silver Bow Creek flowing through Butte was sewer, and No. 2, it was based on the fact that it was technically impracticable to responsibly clean and restore the Creek and its corridor and to leave contaminated "waste in place." Both of these premises have now been proven to be totally false and inaccurate.

As Judge Newman confirmed in the Silver Bow Creek Headwaters Coalition successful lawsuit -- Silver Bow Creek flowing through Butte is a watercourse (a creek) and thus are waters of the State of Montana. Article IX Section 3 of the Montana Constitution States -- "All waters within the boundaries of the State are the property of the State, held in trust, for the use of its people."

I strongly believe the Record of Decisions on Silver Bow Creek, the Anaconda Smelter and the Berkeley Pit be reopened and the EPA perform their necessary "due diligence" and perform their legal and constitutionally mandated duty. The proposed remedies in all three sites are definitely not protective of human health and the environment as is a requirement of Superfund law and the Montana Constitution.

-- Fritz Daily, of Butte, a former state legislator, is a longtime watchdog of Superfund cleanup in Butte.